

50
JUBILEE
50
TOCH

NOVEMBER 1965



Toc H Journal ONE SHILLING

"Show Boat"

The Stock Exchange Dramatic and Operatic Society have chosen for their Diamond Jubilee production this well-remembered musical (shades of Paul Robeson!). Once again they have generously offered Toc H the first night, on Tuesday February 15 at the Scala Theatre, London. Early enquiries for seats are advised, to Ken Rogers, Toc H Headquarters, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

Etembeni Leaflet

This new four-page leaflet, with two fine colour pictures, describes the present work at Botha's Hill T. B. Settlement and our 'Etembeni' Jubilee Thanksgiving Agricultural Project. Intended for appeal purposes, price 1s. per dozen, plus postage.

Christmas Cards & Diaries

Details of the two Toc H Christmas Cards and of the 1966 edition of the Toc H Diary are to be found at the end of the September and October issues of the JOURNAL. Please send in your orders as soon as possible, using the order form provided. We should welcome receiving orders before the end-of-year rush.

Advertisers

Manufacturers of a wide range of articles of interest to our readers will find the JOURNAL pages helpful in making their goods and services known. Enquiries about space and charges will be welcomed by Stan Waters, who handles our advertising, at Messrs. Arthur H. Wheeler & Co., St. Stephen's House, Victoria Embankment, London, S.W.1.

Ourselves

The TOC H JOURNAL is published monthly eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can begin with any issue and costs only 12s. for a complete year.

N.B.—A price concession to 10s. per dozen, post free, is made to Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen.

Forty-third year



of Publication

TOC H JOURNAL

*Letters and articles are welcomed and are printed as individual points of view
and are not necessarily those of the Movement*

NOVEMBER 1965

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COVER PICTURE: WELL PLASTERED! During this year's 'Seniors' Week' at Dor Knap two members of seventy-plus, Frank Bickerton and 'plasterer's mate' George Jenkins, built the head on the old well which the Seniors discovered in 1964. They also laid the drain.

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INTO THE POOL

AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER the Women's Association said goodbye to Miss MARGUERITA FOWLER, who has been its General Secretary for the past twelve years. The fact that

Farewell to Rita Fowler

Rita has felt compelled to resign because of family responsibilities will be very widely regretted, and nowhere more so than on our side of the house. She never spared herself and the spirit of friendly give-and-take between our two Headquarters flourished under her encouragement and led to the many new instances of joint working at all levels within the Toc H Family. We trust that her successor, who has yet to be appointed, will continue in the same good tradition.

ONE IS TEMPTED to think of bird-watching as something that can only be done in the country. TOM BARTLETT, for long one of the senior members of Toc H in West London, is an

Bartlett on Birds

expert on birds in the London suburbs and some time ago he wrote an article entitled *Bird Gardening in the Suburbs*. Note the intriguing title. His point is that by creating the right conditions a whole variety of bird species can be induced to settle and breed in an ordinary suburban garden such as his own in Harrow, where he lived until recently. For instance, he planted a gorse bush and soon got what he wanted—a pair of stonechats nesting. He also trained a dog to keep the cats away! This article, which has been reprinted in the Summer issue of *Birds and Country*, is an invaluable little contribution to the art of more abundant living—for us and for the birds. It is obtainable, price 2s. 6d. from Mr. Hockley Clarke, 79 Surbiton Hill Park, Surbiton, Surrey.

IN JULY, under the heading "Garo Hills Assignment", we published a report from FRANK FIELD on his resettlement work for refugees from East Pakistan, now trying to make a

**Books
Wanted**

new life in the Garo Hills of Assam. He concluded by saying: "We are in urgent need of pictorial reference books, atlases and text books of all kinds. Don't think it's not good enough; we want everything!" Despite the inevitable dislocation—if nothing worse—which will result from the sad conflict between India and Pakistan, we hope to be able to meet Frank's call for help. Members and friends who have the kind of books appealed for should send them to "Garo Hills", c/o Toc H, 42 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3. We will do our best to get them on their way. Gifts of money to help defray freight costs would also be appreciated.

THE ABBEYFIELD SOCIETY, founded as an expression of Christian concern for the elderly, aims to provide, by local voluntary effort, houses in which old folk may have their own 'bed-sitters', with a resident staff to provide their main meals and attend to their general welfare. Over two hundred local

**House
Proud**

Abbeyfield societies have now been established and WEST KIRBY BEACON Branch in the Wirral decided to make the foundation of yet another its special Jubilee Year project. All the Executive Committee were either Toc H members or Builders, but before long it had become a full community job, with the backing of the local Council. Their first house, accommodating five elderly tenants, after much hard voluntary labour, has been opened, and it seems unlikely that they will be content until they have several more houses besides.

A NEW TYPE of large-print book, with very black type face about twice the normal size, is now being produced. This enables the partially sighted to read with ease. The books

**For partially
Sighted**

are called *Ulverscroft Large Print Books* and are published by F. A. Thorpe (Publishing) Ltd., Artisan House, The Bridge, Anstey, Leicester, a non-profit making concern. Each book costs fifteen shillings and can be bought direct from the publishers or borrowed from a public library. The publisher will send, free on request, a full list of titles published so far and to be published shortly. They are completely unabridged reprints of well-known romances and detective stories, biographies and travel books. Too few people know about this worthwhile venture and unless demand for the books increases, publication may cease.

Bobl Bach - What a Building !

BOB HARVEY

LANARMON-YN-IAL is a lusty infant of a Branch some two years old in a wild, but not woolly (except for the sheep) corner of North Wales. It didn't take long for the lads to realise that meeting once a week in the church schoolroom is no way to bring up a healthy, growing family, now eighteen strong, and having already built a full-scale kitchen onto the said schoolroom in return for having it rent free, we reckoned we could build anything from a *ty bach* to a town hall.

Accordingly spies were sent out into every corner of the parish to investigate and report on the possibilities of a room of our own. Many and varied were the reports which came back:—

"There's that empty chapel at the other end of the village."

"All dry rot indeed, but there's a cottage next door."

"Evans the Pant has an old barn"

"Bryn-yr-Ogof's got nothing but pigsties"

"Gwilym Plas Gwyn says we could have a corner of his bottom field to put a building"

"But what about the Planning, isn't it?"

"Jones Pwll Glâs has a tidy old place—handy for the pub too indeed"

"I've got it lads—that old shippon of Iorwerth's . . ."

"Right in the village too"

"And Iorwerth's a brother-in-law to John here."

"Aye, indeed, it's a good old place."

"Let's have a look at it then. Well, aye, of course it's dark, but it's a full moon isn't it, and we've got torches"



Bob Harvey

Making the shippon ship-shape.

Look at it we did, and liked it, and John negotiated successfully with Iorwerth for the sale of the old shippon (cow-shed to those unfortunates who live outside the Principality). Massive stone walls, a good slate roof, a couple of ancient timber roof trusses, and plenty of character—it was ours.

Since then, enthusiasm has known no bounds. The lads have been meeting twice a week in the old building and work only stopped for a few weeks in the dead of winter when we couldn't get near the place for snow. Not so long ago we cleared a space among the piles of stones, bags of cement, wheelbarrows and ladders, and initiated our latest member—the first in the old shippon. He was, incidentally, a chap who had noticed what was going on and was tempted to come in and give us a hand.

A transformation has already taken place, to the never-ending wonder and astonishment of the locals, one of whom was heard to exclaim as he looked in recently: "Bobl bach—what a building!"



MULTUM IN PARVO

THE B.B.C. APPEAL by the Vice-Patron, the Hon. ANGUS OGILVY, will be broadcast on all Home Services on Sunday, November 21 at 8.15 p.m.

REG STEWART, formerly Scottish Area Secretary, who commenced an initial period of full-time staff work in Australia in April, has been appointed to the Australian staff.

F. COLIN CAMPBELL, formerly Jubilee Secretary, has been appointed Public Relations Secretary at Headquarters.

DEREK AUSTIN, a Toc H Volunteer, has ceased his temporary staff appointment on entering University. He has been engaged upon Youth Projects work in Yorkshire.

THE JUBILEE VIGIL from 9 p.m. on Saturday December 11, until 9 p.m. on the Sunday.

CENTRAL COUNCIL: The Annual Meeting will be held at The Hayes, Swanwick, Derbyshire, during the week-end April 29—May 1, 1966.

CENTRAL COUNCILLORS will be sharing as fully as possible with their members the subjects raised in the Hon. Administrator's letter received during the summer.

BRANCH MEMBERS' ROLLS: During November and December the review and renewal of membership for 1966 by Branch Members and Executives.

THE FORMER NORTHERN REGION of Toc H has now been divided into two, east and west of the Pennines. They are known as North Eastern and North Western Regions.

CORRECTION: The telephone number of ADRIAN DUDMAN, Northern Area Secretary, is Durham 3157.

A survey of T o c H over fifty years in words
and pictures. *Compiled by Geoffrey Martin.*

With seventeen pages of text and fifty
photographs, ten of them in colour.
Many of the photographs have
never before been published
and include historic events,
T o c H Women's Associa-
tion, the Family over-
seas, and the newest
expressions of the
Movement today

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Members One of Another

Earlier this year, during his visit to the West Indies, Tubby visited a Synagogue in Jamaica. An unknown Jewish member of the congregation describes the occasion.

THE SYNAGOGUE was cool and quiet under its high roof, the grey walls reflecting the last of the light, and the candles, each with its own halo, flickered in their tall stands. The congregation drifted in, one by one, their slow steps drawing patterns in the loose white sand spread over the floor, but made no sound as they found their seats and, seated, seemed to meditate. The continuous whirring of the fans broke the silence.

Slowly and gently the organist played and through the north door the procession entered, led by the Rabbi, followed by his guest, the Rev. P. B. Clayton. Having seated his guest the Rabbi took his appointed place and commenced the evening prayers. His voice was clear and resonant and each syllable was heard by those present. Prayers were intoned standing and when the congregation finished the responses the organist played and two voices in harmony took up the refrain, rising and falling in unison.

The Rabbi was seated in the centre of the Synagogue, high above the congregation, and immediately below and in front of him sat his guest speaker. The Church of England clergyman was not a young man, but sturdy in build and he sat upright with his scarlet cassock falling in loose folds around him. He appeared serene and infinitely kindly as he sat quietly waiting, flanked on each side by the two tall candleholders.

The first part of the service concluded, the Rabbi moved towards the pulpit at the opposite end of the Synagogue from his own chair and, once there, introduced his guest to the congregation, telling them of the time fifty-four years ago, when he was a small boy in Portsea where his

grandfather was Rabbi. He had been leaving the Synagogue one day and on the opposite side of the street strode a young clergyman and his grandfather had said: "there is Tubby Clayton, you will hear more of him, indeed we shall all hear more of him." Rabbi Silverman stepped down and his guest took his place.

Jewish Friends

Tubby spoke simply but everything he said was infused with a wide love of people; all people everywhere. He mentioned not only his long years of friendship with Rabbi Silverman but his friendship with Rabbis in London following his founding of the world-wide Movement of Toc H at the end of the first World War, and their joint work among young people. Tubby spoke of his respect and affection for the Jewish people and of the privilege he considered it to be asked to address the congregation there gathered. Through all his phrases humour bubbled constantly, and his love for and belief in the fellowship of man was shown as second only to his profound love of God.

A man constantly mentioned by Tubby in connection with his work was the late Basil Henriques who stood so high in the love and esteem, not only of his friends and colleagues, but wherever his work was known, and Tubby paid wonderful tribute to the memory of this great man. In conclusion, he spoke of how much he hoped to see in London as many of the congregation as would be travelling that way in future, and of his Jewish friends there to whom he would introduce them.

The service over, friends joined one another and chatted quietly as they moved towards the wide doorway. Rabbi Silverman, Tubby Clayton and leading members of the congregation stood together greeting others as they passed, the tall candles behind them shedding a soft lustre on the clerical scarlet and black. Gradually people moved into the soft darkness as the cool night breeze passed through the silent building.

Introducing AJEX

DEREK BAUM

In Chapter XV of *Second Wind* John Callf urged a closer working relationship with the Jewish community. We are glad to publish this description of AJEX by its Joint Honorary Secretary.

THE ASSOCIATION of Jewish ex-Service men and women, better known as AJEX, is the only Jewish National organisation of its kind whose ranks are open to all shades of political and religious opinion within the Anglo-Jewish community. The AJEX story goes back to a day in November 1921, when twelve members of the Old Comrades Group of the Jewish Regiment (the Judeans) placed a wreath of poppies at the Cenotaph—a tribute to the memory of their Jewish comrades who fell during the first World War. Nowadays AJEX, with the maturity and the confidence won with the passing years, has assumed responsibility in three major fields of activity—the welfare of Jewish ex-Service men and women, the organisation of the annual Jewish Remembrance Service and Parade, and the maintenance of good relations between Jew and non-Jew, with particular emphasis on defence against anti-Semitism.

Linked with its welfare work are the annual outings for the disabled, blinded and maimed men and women of two world wars from St. Dunstan's, Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, the Star and Garter Home and other homes and hospitals of the Ministry of Pensions. Branches throughout the United Kingdom also arrange outings for the disabled and under-privileged children of all denominations, with the simple purpose of bringing a little happiness into the lives of others less fortunate than themselves.

Hospital visiting, financial assistance, legal advice, help in pensions claims, the distribution of comforts to those in hospitals and convalescent homes, support of the British Legion in its fight to obtain increased disability pensions,

these are some of the manifold activities that make up the work of the AJEX Charitable Trust which, through a Management Committee, administers the welfare work of the organisation.



On Christmas morning in the East Lanes Home for Disabled Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen, members of AJEX take over the job of serving at table.

The help given in hospitals at Christmas has become an important feature of the work of the Association and there can be little doubt that here is the complete answer to the thoroughly unjustified contention, levelled in some quarters, that AJEX lives in the past. The purpose behind the Christmas Hospital Scheme is basically a gesture of goodwill to the general community on a day which is recognised as one of goodwill. Perhaps the underlying thought prompting this gesture is remembrance of the many occasions during both World Wars when Jewish members of the Forces were relieved of duty on their religious holidays whenever the exigencies of the Services permitted, and this is a way of saying thank you.

¶ A new scheme to provide transport for the disabled and physically handicapped was promoted nationally for the first time in 1964 and has been received most enthusiastically. Here the purpose is to transport handicapped people from their homes to their handiwork centres, places of vocational training or club rooms. Many of these people would otherwise be completely house-bound, and they are equally grateful for just a short ride round the shops, or to the local parks or surrounding countryside, simply to see the scenery and get out of their routine environment; in many cases they have not been outside their own homes for several years.

It is interesting to note that the idea for this transport scheme originated from an appeal by the British Red Cross Society for help in this particular field of social service, and many branches welcomed the opportunity of further co-operation with that most worthy organisation as an addition to the already firmly established AJEX Blood Donor Groups. Perhaps the most encouraging feature in these particular spheres of service to the community has been the astonishing number of Jewish youngsters who have volunteered to help AJEX even though none of them are—or, we hope, ever will be—eligible for membership of the Association as a result of war.

Act of Re-dedication

The thoughts of AJEX members are often with those who did not return. No Jew has really forgotten the dead of two devastating wars nor the six million Jews slaughtered by the Nazis, and each year AJEX repeats a conscious act of remembrance and a solemn re-dedication to the principles which can render their sacrifice not in vain. This act is the Annual Service at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, conducted by the Chief Rabbi and the Senior Jewish Chaplain to the Forces. The Annual Service is not a parade of military might; it is the solemn avowal by the survivors of a terrible disaster that, with God's help, their children shall live in peace.

This unity is reflected in a stand through the years against any form of racialism and religious intolerance, which is one of the main aims of AJEX. Wherever and whenever the Jewish name has been vilified, there have come Jewish ex-Service men to answer the so-called arguments and present the facts. Through its numerous branches AJEX is in touch with public opinion throughout the country. In 1960 a silent protest march was organised in less than seven days against the resurgence of Nazism in Germany and more recently AJEX has been associated with the strenuous representations to the West German Government which have resulted in an extension of the time limit to the Statute of Limitation in connection with the prosecution of Nazi war criminals.

AJEX has been described as the spearhead of Anglo-Jewish defence. Those who served in and survived the First World War have left the days of their youth far behind. Even those who served in the struggle against the forces of evil in the 1939-45 war are no longer young. It is, then, to youth that AJEX has to look, if religious and racial intolerance, which could so easily precipitate tragic conflict, is to be effectively countered.

The ex-Service man of the post-war period is therefore especially welcome in all AJEX branches. Although his attitude to service in H.M. Forces of necessity differs from that of the man who served under the emergency atmosphere of war, he represents the younger generation from which future leaders will be drawn. In every branch he and his friends will find a warm welcome.

Each branch of AJEX, with its sense of responsibility and its desire to serve, is an asset and an added source of strength to its local community. Full participation in national, communal and civic life is encouraged and members of AJEX branches serve side by side with their non-Jewish colleagues on the Council of Christians and Jews, the British Legion, R.A.F.A., local welfare committees and in all spheres which fortify the happy relationship between Jew and non-Jew.

Working with AJEX

THE EDITOR

AS A RESULT of reading Mr. Baum's article we hope that a good few of our Branches will try to 'make their number' with the local branch of AJEX. It should be realised that AJEX only exists in the larger towns and cities, so that they have far fewer branches than us, though their membership in those branches is considerably higher. Their total membership is about the same as our own.

In making contact it is well to remember what they and we are hoping to do and what we are not seeking to do.

1. We are hoping for occasional opportunities of going out on a 'job' together. It is up to the Jobmaster to find the right kind of job and plan it with utmost preparation.
2. We are not out to make them members of Toc H, any more than they are hoping to make us members of AJEX. By working together we may help one another to be better members of our own societies, better practitioners of our faiths.
3. We are not concerned with joint meetings, unless there is some special purpose for them. Action, rather than talk, should be the object of the present exercise.

We shall be particularly glad to have news from any Branches which succeed in striking up a working relationship with AJEX. An article on Toc H will be appearing in the quarterly AJEX Journal. Their branches are:—

Belfast; Birmingham; Blackpool; Bournemouth; Brighton and Hove; Bristol; Cardiff; Chatham; Coventry; Croydon; Derby; East London; Edgware; Edinburgh; Epping Forest; Finchley & Hampstead Garden Suburb; Glasgow; Grimsby; Hackney; Hammersmith; Hampstead; Hendon and Golders Green; Hull; Ilford; Kingston; Leeds; Leicester; Luton; Manchester; Merseyside; Middlesbrough and Stockton; Muswell Hill; Newcastle-on-Tyne; Nottingham; Northampton; Portsmouth; Reading; Romford; Ruislip; Sheffield; Southend and Westcliff; Southport; Stoke-on-Trent; Sunderland; Swansea; Southgate and Palmers Green; South London; Stamford Hill; Walthamstow and Leyton; Wembley; Willesden; Wimbledon; Wolverhampton; Woolwich.

If you cannot find particulars locally please write to their General Secretary, the Association of Jewish ex-Service Men & Women, at their Headquarters, 100 Crawford Street, London, W.1. (PAD 8444).

Welcome Sailor !

IVOR BARKER

Deputy Warden, Talbot House Residential Club for Seafaring Boys

THROUGH OUR DOORS come trumpet players, hospital cases, broken love affairs, happy, unhappy and lonely boys. At Talbot House we deal with them all.

He looks over to the building, brushes the hair from his tired eyes and crosses the road towards Talbot House. Dragging his bag up the steps, he pushes open the door and goes in. Putting his bag on the floor, he presses the Warden's buzzer.

From now on our work begins; we welcome him with a smile and a shake of the hand and offer him a chair. Sitting down, he states his case in a worried "you must do something" attitude. He was a seaman but he has been out of work for some time. No work, no seaman's book, no money. A bed is what he needs, also a job, but more so he needs our help. We ask a number of questions and try to get to know him and put his mind at rest.

In the morning we continue our work. A 'phone call to the Shipping Federation and the National Assistance Board to see what can be done; another talk with him, giving a little advice, then send him off first to the Shipping Federation. This boy found a job and our efforts were successful. Not all of our problems can we solve, for some boys will not face their problems and it is difficult to help.



Brian A. Moody, Southampton

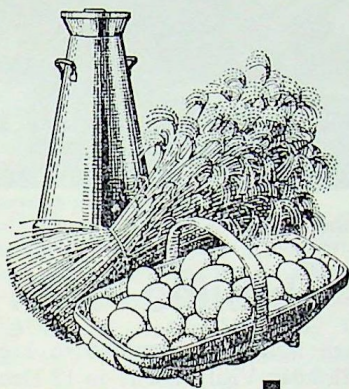
New arrivals at Talbot House, Southampton.

Opportunities for individual help abound today as much as they ever did and all our boys are individuals: they must be treated as such, their problems are so variegated and it is up to us to help them all as best we can. To some of them the world is an awful place; life has become complicated; work is hard and play is not easy. They refuse to grow up.

We are often confronted with these adult infants who refuse to grow up until reality touches them. Young people today are no different nor inferior to the young people of other generations, but they may be more bewildered by the world in which they find themselves. What they need is someone who does not condemn them, who will be honest with them and who will not talk down to them. This we try to do in a home for thirty-one boys. To some it's just a place to stay, to others it is home into which we try to put understanding, patience, guidance and help.

¶ The boys with all their troubles come and go. We do what we can; we look once more towards the door to the outside world and await the next boy to press the Warden's buzzer.

OVALTINE



Better sleep
on it!



Sport & General Press Agency Ltd.

Tubby lighting the Lamp at a Central Council.

Jubilee Vigil

TEAMS ARE NOW BEING FORMED to keep the Jubilee Year Birthday Vigil from 11 to 12 December. Lamps will be lit at 9 p.m. local time all around the world.

"In the Chain of Light", wrote Tubby, "we still possess an inspiration which came home to us from Toc H in Australia. It has proved for many years a most compelling custom.

"Let us henceforth plan and prepare to act with moral courage, and invite our known and unknown friends to share in the receiving of the Light, and in the Vigil, partnering our teams. Beg that their gifts of prayer may be bestowed. There are more Christian people than we know!"

Each 'shift' keeps only one hour of the twenty-four, and the theme for each hour is set out in the specially prepared handbook, *The Birthday Vigil of Toc H*, copies of which are still obtainable from Toc H Publications Department. price 1s. 3d. (including postage).

A.G.K.

Fayre Enough !

LES RENDELL

"**W**E MUST DO SOMETHING worthwhile for the Jubilee", said somebody, "We need to put Toc H St. Austell on the map around these parts, let people know what it's all about."

"How about a Fête next Whitsun?" said a Bright Spark, as if that were the end of the problem. "All we need are a few stalls and sideshows, a couple of marquees, someone to brew tea, and we're home and dry."

What Bright Spark didn't realise on that evening at the beginning of last winter was that on Whit-Saturday 1965, just before the Fête (or Fayre, as it was eventually decided to call it), the Branch was a long way from home financially, and, as a result of a typical summer's day, far from dry.

"The Band of the Royal Marines, Plymouth, will give a display and beat the retreat", announced the Chairman proudly round about Christmas. Up jumped Bright Spark, "We need a celebrity to open it; how about Ena Sharples?" But Ena couldn't come and at Easter, after just about everyone who had a double at Madame Tussaud's had been contacted, there was still no-one prepared to cross the Tamar Bridge for the sake of Toc H. "Now we're in deep water", said Bright Spark a little dully. Deep-water—swimmers—celebrities—Anita Lonsbrough! "I'll be glad to come", she said.

Programmes (twenty pages of Toc H information, details of the Fayre and advertisements), posters, car-stickers, handbills, were rushed out; local organisations volunteered help; the local Youth Leader arranged marquees for us. A gymnastic display by R.N.A.S. Culdrose, a children's art competition (the Padre's brainchild), athletics, a fancy dress competition, a baby show ("Ask the Mothers' Club to run that" said Bright Spark, a little worried), a tug-of-war knock-out contest and Ben Johnson, the famous local Town-Crier—that was the line-up under the star billing of Anita Lonsbrough and the Royal Marines Band. The Hon. Treasurer coughed nervously and said: "You realise that we've committed ourselves to a great deal of money?" (How on earth did the expenses get to that figure?) "Agreed" said the Chairman.

In actual fact the Chairman's hair nearly turned from sleek black to pearly white in the last hectic, worrying, frightening and exasperating weeks before the Fayre. Nearly two thousand programmes were sold before the big day and everyone in the town and district knew that Toc H had a big 'do' on at the Cornish Stadium (the local equivalent of Wembley).

The day dawned, Anita Lonsbrough arrived, and the rains came too! At lunchtime Anita could well have broken another Olympic record in the Fayre-ground, but luckily the rain stopped and the crowds came—and came—and came—coming on for three thousand. The Chairman smiled for the first time in six months, Anita signed autographs, the Band played and money changed hands.

Sufficient to say it was a great success. Perhaps only a modest profit was made in view of all our expenses (actual takings exceeded £450), but the local papers headlined Toc H and there were pictures of the Chairman smiling (with Anita, of course) and the Jubilee was well and truly celebrated in St. Austell.

"I knew it was a good idea!" said Bright Spark gaily afterwards. But the Chairman didn't hear; he was sound asleep.

Elder Brethren

'With proud thanksgiving . . .'

BLAKE.—On September 5, HENRY THOMAS WALTER BLAKE, aged 89, a member of Highams Park Branch. Elected 17.1.'58.

BUCKLE.—On March 6, CHARLES BUCKLE, aged 74, a member of Waterlooville Branch. Elected 17.3.'31.

CHALK.—On August 21, LESLIE CHALK, aged 73, a member of Tenterden Branch. Elected 3.2.'33.

CRAIG.—On August 21, WILLIAM CRAIG, aged 64, a member of Cumbernauld Branch. Elected 2.2.'46.

EGERTON.—On July 17, WILLIAM JOHN EGERTON, aged 62, a member of Builth Wells Branch. Elected 9.1.'56.

GILES.—On July 31, LEWIS HENRY GILES, aged 72, a member of Cheriton Branch. Elected 10.6.'30.

GRAVELY.—On September 6, Dr. FREDERICK HENRY GRAVELY, an Oxford & Thames Valley Area Member. Elected Madras 15.12.'25.

GRAYSTON.—On September 16, ARTHUR GEORGE GRAYSTON, aged 59, a member of Chelmsford Branch. Elected 3.1.'52.

PADDISON.—On September 2, ALBERT EDWARD VICTOR PADDISON, aged 68, a member of Stafford Branch. Elected 1.7.'57.

PIDDOCK.—On August 21, THOMAS HENRY PIDDOCK, aged 73, a member of Cheriton Branch. Elected 12.4.'38.

PRICE.—On September 9, HENRY THOMAS PRICE, aged 49, a founder member of Builth Wells Branch. Elected 5.11.'37.

WILSON.—On August 7, WILLIAM CHARLES WILSON, aged 74, a member of Mochdre Branch. Elected 17.3.'58.

WOOD.—On June 12, the Rev. WILLIAM HENRY WOOD, aged 66, a member of Broughty Ferry Branch. Elected 15.6.'53.


WRAY.—On August 23, WILLIAM BERTIE WRAY, M.C., T.D., aged 83, a member of Old Coulsdon Branch. Elected 25.5.'38.

In Memoriam


FREDERICK HENRY GRAVELY

Dr. F. H. Gravelly, who died at Reading on September 6, was one of the original members of the Madras Branch, the first meeting of which took place in his house. He will be remembered in Toc H for his quiet unassuming character, for being all that a friend is expected to be, for the job he undertook as one of a team of visitors to the Madras Jail over a long period of years, and for the absorbing interest he evoked in his talks on natural history and archeology.

S.G.H.D.



OPINION



READERS' LETTERS

The Festival

WHILST AGREEING with some of the points raised in the two letters in the September issue, I would congratulate the Festival Committee and its helpers on the great job done in organising the Festival events in general.

As to the first half of the Albert Hall evening uninspiring seems to me a more appropriate description than "sombre". The Band and other performers provided quite good entertainment; but how much better if their performances had formed part of a really live presentation of Toc H past, present and future, showing its various aspects in words, music and song. I myself submitted ideas along these lines to the Festival Committee, which must have received many similar suggestions.

My contention is that the first part of the programme, which has been widely criticised, would thus have been more coherent and effective and would have had far greater relevance to Toc H.

I do hope that all the suggestions received will be

considered in good time for the next Festival Evening. Meanwhile my thanks to the Committee for the many opportunities afforded for getting together during the Festival Week.

ERNIE WOOD

Wickford, Essex.

Etembeni Appeal

ONE OF OUR MEMBERS WAS recently given a few shillings for Toc H because it was Jubilee Year. The obvious destination of the money was Etembeni, but because the amount was small we started to think what we could do to add to it, and decided that at each weekly meeting we would hand over all the coppers and threepenny pieces that we had in our pockets. We issued a challenge (accepted almost by return of post) to the Branch to which one of our former members now belongs to beat us at this.

It is fun and it may collect a few bob. Perhaps some other Branches might like the idea.

TOM DENT

Harpenden, Herts.

Muscular Dystrophy

AS PART of their Jubilee celebrations, Falmouth members sponsored the inaugural meeting of Falmouth Branch of the Muscular Dystrophy Group of Great Britain, whose object is to raise funds for research into the cause and possible cure or treatment of this most distressing and crippling condition. In its more serious forms it often proves to be lethal to young boys.

As a result of their efforts, a healthy local committee was formed (no less than three Toc H members serving on it).

I myself, being a sufferer of progressive muscular atrophy, was tremendously bucked at the wonderful effort put in by members of the Branch. May I as a humble Branch secretary of Toc H and of the new M.D.G. group formed, appeal to all Toc H Branches to support this cause if called upon to do so?

Falmouth.

GEORGE HART

Free Publicity

IT MAY NOT BE widely known that Shell distribute monthly in various regions leaflets giving particulars of local events. This free publicity is available for any Toc H affair—garden parties, rallies, etc., or even car-trips for the elderly and wood-chopping sessions. The date, time and location (or as many details as you can, including the name and address of the organisers) should be sent to The Editor, 'Go Shell', 4 Fitzroy Square, London, W.1. Free poster blanks are obtainable from the same address.

GRAHAM WICKLIN

Stockport, Cheshire.

Singapore

A LETTER I have just received from a chap who was resident in Talbot House, Singapore for six months and who returned to this country about a month before me includes the following paragraph.

"I found at Toc H something that in my work of travelling around you rarely see, that is people who wish to give without gain to themselves, and for this I am truly grateful. When people ask me what my impressions of Singapore were my reply is that it is a good job that Toc H is there."

Glasgow.

JOHN JANS

"Here We Go Again"

HAS TOC H nothing better to do than conduct an inquest upon itself, when from the Annual Report it is evident the Movement is still alive and kicking?

I read the original resolution with some dismay and, even in the amended form, I have grave doubts of the value of any report that may be produced. And if any real action is subsequently taken generally throughout the Movement I shall be more than surprised. I think the enquiry would be a waste of time, energy and money that could profitably be spent in many other directions.

That is not to say that all is well in the present set-up, but Toc H contains within its own ranks enough men of character to produce a remedy if one is needed.

Bletchley.

TED CURRY

Towards a Mobile Movement

IT IS A HEALTHY SIGN that many Branches are following the new pattern set by the young in concentrating more on mobility than on meetings. Our emphasis on meeting in the past has led us always to suppose that Branch property meant some sort of building in which to meet. However it is now clear that many Branches are acquiring mobility in the form of a vehicle of some sort or other. But whereas the ownership and insurance of buildings is covered in *The Toc H Signpost* nothing is included about the ownership of vehicles. As we do not plan to reprint *Signpost* at present the following notes will be of use to Branches owning or thinking of owning cars: —

1. *Ownership.* The vehicle should be registered in the name of the — Branch of Toc H Incorporated. This avoids any liability to individuals and safeguards the Branch's or Toc H's ownership in any eventuality.

2. *Drivers.* It is absolutely essential that all drivers of the vehicles be qualified. Probably it is a good idea if the vehicle be the responsibility of one Branch Officer. He should personally check the licence of any new driver.

3. *Vehicle Insurance.* A fully Comprehensive policy is recommended, and particular attention should be paid to the following: —

(a) All passengers should be fully covered by the policy. If the vehicle is used for special purposes, such as the transporting of the disabled, the insurance company should be told.

(b) The policy should cover use by any qualified driver.

(c) No payment must be accepted for the use of the vehicle, although the Branch or Toc H Headquarters can receive donations given as thanks for any service done by the Branches. But donations must be paid to the Treasurer and on no account given to the driver of the vehicle. (If the policy covers HIRE then this clause does not apply.)

(d) The Insurance Company employed should be one with a good record, particularly with regard to the settlement of claims. (Their premiums are unlikely to be the cheapest available.) *Headquarters have recently come to an agreement with the Car & General Insurance Company that Branches of Toc H can expect to get cover for their vehicles at much reduced rates.* Enquiries should be directed to: —

Car & General Insurance Company Ltd.,
Byron House, 7 St. James Street,
London, S.W.1.

and marked 'Toc H Policy (Fleet)'.

4. *Personal Accident Insurance.* When vehicles are owned by a corporate body drivers are not insured on a personal basis for death and loss of limbs or earnings under the vehicle policy. Branches are therefore urged to insure their members under the Toc H Personal Accident Policy which costs 1s. 2d. per member per year and is administered from Headquarters, to which all enquiries should be made.

K. R. R.

Mark Well

"Caught by the Toc H bug." A true story of a happening in one of our Marks not many years ago. Being plagued with cockroaches in the kitchen and cellars, they called for help from the local Health Department. A nice young man turned up one morning and did a very effective job. The Marksmen being out at work, he asked the Housekeeper: "What goes on here and who lives here?" The Housekeeper must have impressed him, for he was back that evening to ask the Warden if he could come and live there. So we lost a lot of Toc H bugs in exchange for a man who became a grand member of that Mark team.

The True Wilderness*

THIS RECENT BOOK by the Rev. H. A. Williams, an important contributor to those excellent volumes, *Soundings* and *Objections to Christian Belief*, carries on his attempts to integrate the ideas of Freud, Jung and followers into our understanding of what it means to be a Christian in 1965. The book is a collection of short sermons in lucid, down-to-earth English and handles some very precious insights.

Joseph Conrad says in *The Secret Agent* that we can never cease to be ourselves and Williams seems, far from desponding at this, rightly to build much on acceptance of such a fact. "Behold it was good. . . ." that man was given a nature such as he was by God. It is up to us to find the person we are to become and not to shrink from what we find. There are many variations on this theme here, relating both to humanist insights into the need and the propriety of sincerity and integrity, and to Paul Tillich's brand of theology, with his great advice: "Accept that you are accepted" (cf. the Bishop of Woolwich's remarks on the Church's task to become the 'accepting community' in his latest book, *The New Reformation?*).

Here too the self-abasement, miscalled humility, that a Blake and a Lawrence would especially reject, is sternly scouted. Question: if "there is no health in us", then what *did* happen to the "light that lighteth every man that cometh into the world"? "I am all unrighteousness" and kindred wails suggest strongly to me that we are accusing God of botching the job He made of us, maligning Him for making us less than perfect, and asking Him what on earth (or elsewhere) is our use in His plans. This links too with the very dispensable idea of God being called in as long-stop or last aid in emergency, only really interested in our sickness and weakness, not in our health and strength, potential or actual.

Furthermore, to ignore, reject and suppress what strikes us as natural is shown up in this book for the dangerous and deadly procedure it can be. Once again, we are thereby querying the equipment God has given us. "Isn't this the only way to avoid sterile complacency?" you may ask. To this Williams has an important answer in his sermon on "Conceived and born in sin". This does not mean "bound to fail and need plucking out of the mire by an angry God who suddenly thinks better of His anger". It does imply that we have not yet realised our full selfhood, "the person intended for me" in Buber's phrase, but that God is leading us on to ever greater fullness of being. "Now are we the sons of God" (what? not miserable sinners after all?), "and it doth not yet appear what we shall be. . . ."

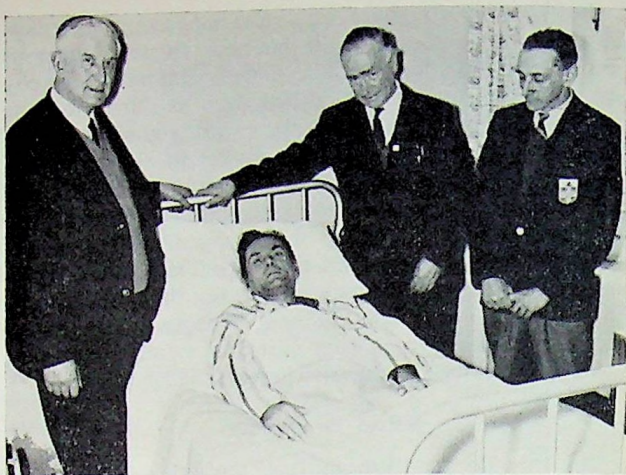
Real Repentance

All this does not mean that the book attaches no meaning to repentance or to the anger of God but that such notions are in need of radical revision. It can only be helpful to have such words as these alongside us as we try. "The ultimate root of repentance is the discovery that we are sons of God, that we have it in us to be what God is like, to be alive as God is alive, by giving, by generosity, by love."

What holds us back is our fear and distrust and shrinking from life. For me then the book's mightiest message is, "Do not withhold yourselves" (learn to give and to receive, linked as these generousities are). More simply and boldly still, it reiterates that strange and heartening truth: "It's all right to be yourself." I am reminded of the wonderful story of Rabbi Zusya, who declared that in the next world they would not ask him why he had not been Moses but why he had not been Zusya!

Altogether here is a book to help us pay more than lip-service to such vital ideas as the discovering of our true selves, self-giving in love, and the necessity for openness and encounter. See for your *good* selves! F. B. P.

**The True Wilderness* by H. A. Williams, Constable 16s.



Alois Matyssek is visited by (l.-r.) Bill Leggatt, 'Neville' Chamberlain and Claude Jordan

Mother and Son

THE EDITOR

HOW HUMAN HAPPINESS can become tangled up by the ebb and flow of history, and how that tangle can be unravelled by patience and persistence, is well illustrated by a service undertaken by Bedford Branch.

Alois Matyssek was born forty-five years ago, in that part of Poland which was overrun by the Nazis. Conscripted into the Luftwaffe, he was shot down over North Africa and spent the rest of the war in a U.S. prison camp. On release he settled in England and worked in a factory in the Biggleswade area until two years ago, when he was stricken with disseminated sclerosis. A year later he was admitted to Clapham Hospital, Bedford.

It was at the District Team that a Biggleswade member, an ambulance driver who had sometimes brought Alois to Biggleswade meetings, commended him to the attention of Bedford members and they undertook to visit him. Conversation at first was difficult, though until his illness he used to speak perfect English. He was enabled to read with the aid of special Red Cross gadgets for page-turning, until his eyesight failed.

Alois' greatest wish was that he might meet his mother again; she was still in Poland, now behind the Iron Curtain. Through the splendid efforts of the Red Cross arrangements were made last year to fly Mrs. Matyssek over to this country to see her son.

Another Set-back

Then tragedy again; his mother became too ill to make the journey. Toc H then had the idea of tape-recording a message from Alois to his mother, even though he spoke German and she knew only Polish. Efforts by Bill Leggatt to get Alois' faint voice onto a tape proved unavailing, therefore Freddie Mills of Luton Branch, who speaks German, was enlisted to speak the message.

Next problem was, would the American controlled Radio Free Europe broadcast the message? Answer from America was, no; it was not Alois' own voice, and it was in German. However, they were far from unmoved by the tragedy of the situation and when one of their technicians was over here on business he paid a special visit to Bedford and, with the aid of specially sensitive apparatus, was able to build up a recording of Alois' own voice which was broadcast to Poland.

Best of all, Mrs. Matyssek eventually made the trip and had a moving and unforgettable reunion with her son. She was able to meet all his friends, Red Cross, Toc H, Hospital and others, who have been trying in some small way to atone for all that the world has done to come between a mother and her son.

Warmth for the Old Folk

ACCIDENTAL HYPOTHERMIA IN THE ELDERLY". If you had seen this title on the agenda of a County Old People's Welfare Committee, what would it have meant to you? I had no idea until it was very clearly explained by the County Medical Officer of Health. Having heard this strange-sounding title interpreted, it became obvious that this was a matter on which members of Toc H, and all who are in touch with the elderly, should be informed.

Hypothermia is the term used to indicate a loss of body heat to such an extent that the body temperature drops below 95°. This may not be serious, as at this temperature the body may be able to compensate, but should the temperature drop below 90° immediate treatment is required. It is not generally known that hypothermia has a very high mortality rate.

For this reason the British Medical Association has prepared a statement for general practitioners, health visitors, welfare workers, and those who have special care of the elderly. Parts of this booklet* are of necessity written in technical medical terms, for instance, the sections on Clinical Aspects of Recognition; Complications; and part of the section on Treatment, although in this section it is important for the layman to note that hypothermia is a medical emergency and requires specialized knowledge for correct treatment. In this connection it is also important to know that the methods that might seem obvious for the process of re-warming are the very ones that should not be used, for example the application of external warmth by heat cradles, hot baths, electric blankets, hot water bottles, etc. The only first-aid treatment should be to try to prevent further loss of heat in the patient and then to summon immediate medical advice. The treatment of induced hypothermia, such as in cases of exposure by shipwreck, climbing accidents, etc.,

does not present the same problem, as cases of this kind occur mainly in younger people.

The part of the booklet dealing with Preventive Measures is most important from the point of view of the lay visitor to elderly people. This section deals with Visiting; Heating; Clothing; Nutrition; and Housing. It is stressed that visits must be regular but that there is no easy solution to this, as many old people do not initially welcome assistance, as they regard it as interference. The right relationship between the visitor and the elderly person must first be established. This having been achieved, and armed with a background knowledge about the danger signals to look for in cases of hypothermia, the visitor may do much to prevent a possible occurrence.

Practical Hints

Valuable advice on heating is given, and here also some educating has to be done, for a tradition has grown up that bedrooms must be cold and windows kept open at night. Elderly people should be encouraged to sleep in warm bedrooms, and the merits of several modern safe heating devices are discussed in this section. Consideration is given to the extra cost of this heating, and several suggestions of possible means of meeting this are mentioned.

The clothing worn by old people is not always suitable, such as several layers of woollen garments, which are heavy and restrict movement. The same can apply to bedding. Advice should be given that for maximum comfort and warmth clothing and bedding need to be light in weight, closely woven and not restricting. In cold weather extra nourishment is required, and often this is the very time when old people cut down on the food bill so as to have more money to spend on fuel. Visitors should be on the look-out for this and be ready to advise as to where extra grants can be obtained to prevent this dilemma.

Under Housing several useful points are made which should be noted when accommodation for old people is being planned, such as adequate heating at moderate cost, power points at an easily accessible level, roof insulation, and that consideration should be given to double glazing in all newly erected buildings for old people.

The Summary at the end of this booklet states: "Hypothermia in elderly people is a medical emergency. Death may be inevitable because of primary disease which has precipitated the condition, but in some instances it may be avoided by prompt diagnosis and treatment. Prevention and management of hypothermia demand co-operation from social, public health, general practitioner, and hospital services." Why not ask your local G.P. or M.O.H. to come along to your Branch and tell you more about it?

W.F.B.

**Accidental Hypothermia in the Elderly.* British Medical Association, Tavistock Square, London, W.C.1, 9d. post free.

Ernie says:



Journal Smalls

Small Advertisements must be received (with remittance) by the first day of the month preceding publication. The charge is 6d. a word (minimum 6s.) Editorial Office: Toc H, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.



HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

BRUGES, BELGIUM. — Toc H parties and individual visitors to this lovely old city are offered good accommodation and excellent meals in a very friendly atmosphere at HOTEL JACOBS. Within easy reach of coast and other famed Cities of Art. English spoken, strongly recommended. Write for brochure and terms to Mr. Jules Lietaert, Hotel Jacobs, 1 Balleststraat, Bruges, Belgium.

AUTUMN WEEKENDS are now possible at Warden Manor. Enquire for party dates. Members of Branches invited to join up for a memorable time. Only 22s. 6d. a day including 4 meals. Amid beautiful country overlooking Warden Bay. 49 miles from London. Garage. Write John Cole, Warden Manor, Eastchurch, Kent.

AN ITALIAN TOUR is being arranged for 1966, leaving London on May 22, returning June 5. By air to Pisa, six days in Sorrento (for Naples, Pompeii, Vesuvius, Capri, etc.) visiting Sienna, Rome, Florence, Assisi among other places. For further details write Miss Elsa Perrin, 39 Elmar Rd., Tottenham, London N. 15.

JUBILEE YEAR Rose offer from "Roseacre", Herts. Special collections for Toc H of six bushes each, JUBILEE H.T. or DOR KNAP Floribundas, 31s. 6d. Carriage paid home. All other types available, including standards. Delivery direct from the nursery from November onwards. Send s.a.e. for list of varieties, or 9d. for colour catalogue and hints. Discount up to 15% to purchaser. Orders of £6 and over carriage paid. Orders with cash to W. E. Bruton, F.R.H.S., 31 Browning Road, Enfield. Profits to Family Purse.

VISTA—A survey of Toc H over fifty years in words and pictures. 4s. 6d. from H.Q. or Area Staff.

"THE STILL CENTRE" — The writings of the Bordon Company. Published by Toc H, 4s. 6d. (postage 6d. extra).

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